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January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530

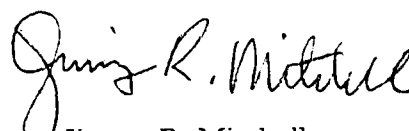
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I think the Microsoft antitrust case was ridiculous to begin with; it was all a matter of Microsoft's bitter competitors trying to retaliate against Microsoft's success and innovation. As part of free enterprise, their competitors had the opportunity to be just as successful as Microsoft. However, they just weren't as smart and didn't create such exceptional products. That's certainly no fault of Microsoft's. I use Microsoft's products every day in my job as a Computer Specialist. I could give you several reasons why I prefer Microsoft's products to anyone else's.

Microsoft is conceding a great deal in this settlement. It is more than fair to their competitors, if not giving them an unfair advantage that they don't deserve. Microsoft is giving away their technology to their competitors and has agreed not to retaliate against software or hardware developers that come up with competing products. They've also agreed to make their Windows software more cross-platform compatible so that users and OEMs can easily configure Windows with other software.

Please accept this settlement for the good of the country. Microsoft is not harming consumers and this settlement unquestionably does not harm their competitors. Please help put a long-awaited end to this lawsuit.

Sincerely,



Jimmy R. Mitchell